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Wednesday
JULY 6, 2016

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publication

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A DEVINE **WEDDING**

HE MIGHT NOT PLAY AN IDEAL GUEST,
BUT ADAM DEVINE SHINES IN 'MIKE
AND DAVE NEED WEDDING DATES' **8-9**



BY SAMANTHA NELSON FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@REDEYETCHICAGO.COM » GET MORE SPONTANEOUS EAT. DRINK. DO. IDEAS AT REDEYETCHICAGO.COM



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TIME FOR A CLOSER LOOK

NASA'S JUNO SPACECRAFT ENTERS JUPITER'S ORBIT AFTER 5-YEAR VOYAGE

Associated Press

Soaring over Jupiter's poles, a NASA spacecraft arrived at the solar system's largest planet on a mission to peek behind the cloud tops.

The final leg of its five-year voyage ended Monday when the solar-powered Juno spacecraft fired its main rocket engine and gracefully slipped into orbit around Jupiter. Mission controllers celebrated when Juno sent back radio signals confirming it reached its destination.

"We're there. We're in orbit. We conquered Jupiter," Juno chief scientist Scott Bolton said during a post-mission briefing.

In the weeks leading up to the encounter, Juno snapped pictures of the giant planet and its four inner moons dancing around it. Scientists were surprised to see Jupiter's second-largest moon, Callisto, appearing dimmer than expected.

The spacecraft's camera and other instruments were switched off for arrival, so there weren't any pictures at that key moment. Scientists have promised close-up views of the planet when Juno skims the cloud tops during the 20-month, \$1.1 billion mission managed by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

The fifth planet from the sun and the heaviest planet in the solar system, Jupiter is what's known as a gas giant—a ball of hydrogen and helium—unlike rocky Earth and Mars.

With its billowy clouds and colorful stripes, Jupiter is an extreme world that likely formed first, shortly after the sun. Unlocking its history may hold clues to understanding how Earth and the rest of the solar system developed.

Named after Jupiter's cloud-piercing wife in Roman mythology, Juno is only the second mission designed to spend time at Jupiter.

Galileo, launched in 1989, circled Jupiter for nearly a decade, beaming back splendid views of the planet and its numerous moons. It uncovered signs of an ocean beneath the icy surface of the moon Europa, considered a top target in the search for life outside Earth.

Juno's mission: To peer through Jupiter's cloud-socked atmosphere and map the interior from a unique vantage point above the poles. Among the lingering questions: How much water exists? Is there a solid core? Why

are Jupiter's southern and northern lights the brightest in the solar system?

"What Juno's about is looking beneath that surface," said Bolton of the Southwest Research Institute in Texas. "We've got to go down and look at what's inside, see how it's built, how deep these features go, learn about its real secrets."

There's also the mystery of its Great Red Spot. Recent observations by the Hubble Space Telescope revealed the centuries-old monster storm in Jupiter's atmosphere is shrinking.

The trek to Jupiter, spanning nearly five years and 1.8 billion miles, took Juno on a tour of the inner solar system followed by a swing past Earth that catapulted it beyond the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

Along the way, Juno became the first spacecraft to cruise that far out powered by the sun, beating Europe's comet-chasing Rosetta spacecraft. A trio of massive solar wings sticks out from Juno like blades from a windmill,

generating 500 watts of power to run its nine instruments.

In the coming days, Juno will turn its instruments back on, but the real work won't begin until late August, when the spacecraft swings in closer. Plans called for Juno to swoop within 3,000 miles of Jupiter's clouds—closer than previous missions—to map the planet's gravity and magnetic fields in order to learn about the interior makeup.

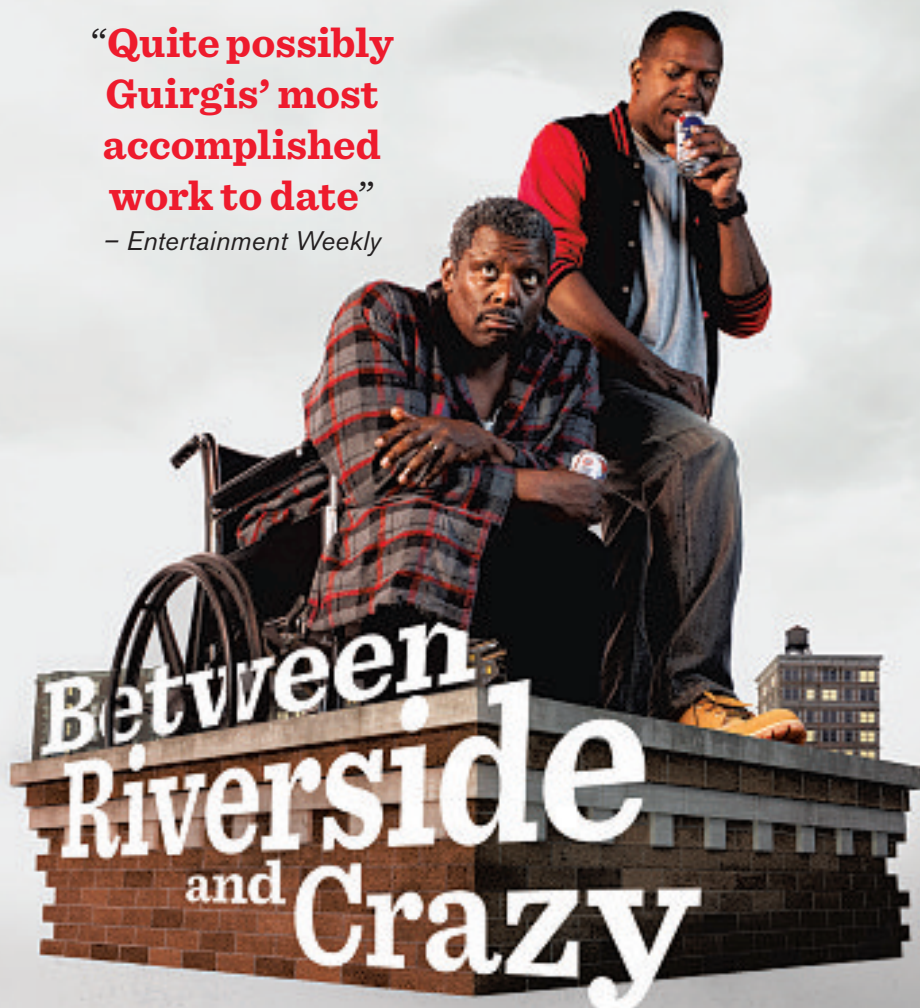
Juno braved a hostile radiation environment to reach Jupiter. Engineers prepared by housing the spacecraft's computer and electronics in a titanium vault. Even so, Juno is expected to get blasted with radiation equal to more than 100 million dental X-rays during the mission.

Like Galileo before it, Juno meets its demise in 2018 when it deliberately dives into Jupiter's atmosphere and disintegrates—a necessary sacrifice to prevent any chance of accidentally crashing into the planet's potentially habitable moons.

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Startup accelerator names 2016 class

By Amina Elahi | BLUE SKY INNOVATION

Techstars Chicago announced its accelerator class for 2016 last week, naming a group of 10 companies that offer everything from packaged lunches to a connected tracker for children.

The program is Chicago’s leading accelerator, with alumni including SpotHero and GiveForward.

Companies often emerge with changed business models, fresh investments and even new names.

This summer’s 90-day bootcamp will feature more instruction than previous years on sales, marketing and growth hacking, and creating viral loops, managing director Troy Henikoff said.

Half of the 10 companies in the accelerator, which started last week, haven’t started earning revenue, Henikoff said.

He said the focus at such an early stage is on getting and keeping users, and getting them to pay.

“We’re really focused on that growth side, and we’re changing the curriculum of our program somewhat to focus on that more,” Henikoff said.

Techstars Chicago will host a private demo day Sept. 29 at the House of Blues.

Participating companies will receive \$20,000 in funding in exchange for 6 percent common stock and the option of a \$100,000 debt note.

Henikoff said the startups also get access to dozens of mentors, free office space and in-kind services from companies including Microsoft and SendGrid.

This year’s class draws startups from across the country but lacks the international presence of 2015’s cohort.

Most of the businesses focus on software, but Henikoff said he was excited to welcome a hardware company for the first time.

Here is this year’s Techstars class; companies are based in Chicago unless otherwise noted.

» **Bright**, which creates software that helps subscription-based businesses track and understand key metrics.

» **Brightwork** (Oregon), a tool for developers to better understand APIs.

» **CompleteSet** (Ohio), a site where people can buy and sell collectible items and memorabilia.

» **ConvertFlow** (Florida), which makes tools that help companies capture emails and more from website visitors.

» **Fitbot** (Florida), a management dashboard for personal trainers and coaches.

» **Jio**, a hardware startup that makes a tiny device for helping parents keep track of their children. The company announced early last week that it had raised \$1.2 million from investors including former Motorola Mobility senior vice president of design Jim Wicks, Samsung SmartThings vice president Tyler Hall and Techstars.

» **LogicGate**, a tool that lets businesses create applications without coding using drag-and-drop software.

» **Pak’d**, a packaged lunch delivery service for families.

» **PartySlate**, a site that curates event photos and connects visitors to vendors. It’s also a member of Wistern, the program at 1871 for women founders.

» **Stationfy** (California), a site where sports fans follow and watch their favorite athletes’ and teams’ moments.



 **A Chicago Tribune publication**
redeyechicago.com

General Manager:
Maggie Wartik, @mwartik
mwartik@redeyechicago.com

CONTACT US

Newsroom: 312-222-4970
redeye@redeyechicago.com

Advertising: 312-527-8077
advertisingredeye@tribune.com

Classifieds: 312-222-2222

Circulation:
redservice@tribune.com

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Pau Gasol
NUCCIO DINUZZO/TRIBUNE FILE

No take-backs, huh?

Although Pau Gasol has not officially signed with San Antonio (he can't until later this week), one of his tweets completely shuts the door on him returning to the Bulls. "After many days of a lot of thinking, I've decided to join the @spurs!" Gasol tweeted Tuesday. "Looking forward to this new chapter with the best aspirations!"

\$9,000 A SECOND

NBA FREE-AGENCY MATH IS STAGGERING—AND IT'S NOT OVER YET

Associated Press

The math is staggering. In the first 96 hours of free agency, NBA teams committed about \$3 billion toward contracts that can start becoming finalized later this week.

That's almost \$9,000 a second. Every second. For four days.

And for all the dominoes that fell between July 1 and 4—Kevin Durant leaving Oklahoma City for Golden State, Joakim Noah leaving the Bulls for New York, Mike Conley staying in Memphis with what would be the richest contract in NBA history—there are still plenty of fireworks remaining, most notably what LeBron James will do with his next deal and if Dwyane Wade will stay in Miami.

As expected, the unexpected has reigned so far.

"The NBA and other businesses, they're not created equally," Thunder general manager Sam Presti said Monday, a few hours after Durant announced that he was taking a two-year deal with Golden State that would be worth \$54 million if he plays it out. There is a player

option for the second season, the Associated Press was told by a person familiar with the terms.

Presti could have said those words last summer and they still would have been accurate, though not as accurate as right now.

The league's about-to-kick-in \$24 billion television contract sparked a jump in the salary cap from \$70 million last season to just over \$94.1 million for the coming year, and that enormous increase created a market that was unpredictable to say the least.

Conley's deal will be worth \$153 million over five years. Noah is a two-time All-Star, a former All-NBA first-team player and a former defensive player of the year; he got four years and \$72 million from the Knicks. That's basically the same deal that Kent Bazemore—a career 6.4-point-per-game scorer—got to stay with Atlanta.

The league's biggest right-place, right-time success story might be guard Tyler Johnson. A year ago at this time, he went home from the Orlando summer league with a broken jaw and

a partially guaranteed contract. On Thursday, he'll sign an offer sheet with Brooklyn that will assure him of making \$50 million over the next four years and finally allow his mother to retire.

Master Sgt. Jennifer Johnson of the California Air National Guard's 129th Rescue Wing has shed a few tears in the past couple days. So has her son, who was undrafted two years ago out of Fresno State and who went from the D-League to the Miami Heat to \$50 million (and Miami is almost certainly going to be unable to match the deal). When he got the numbers, Tyler Johnson was actually overcome by nausea.

"It's so surreal to me," Jennifer Johnson said Monday. "It hasn't registered. It definitely hasn't registered. ... I definitely thought he had the potential to increase his salary, but I never thought he would have multiple teams looking at him like they did."

Durant's departure for Golden State has been the major development so far, and it's tough to see anything topping that one—no matter what James or Wade decides. For all the

billions spent elsewhere, the \$26 million or so that Durant will make next year figures to make a Warriors team that won a record 73 games this past regular season even more daunting.

Going forward, Wade will probably be the biggest name whose destination for next season remains unclear.

He has a \$40 million, two-year offer from Miami, though he hasn't accepted it—which indicates that he won't. There are dozens of other deals leaguewide to be made, and there's plenty of eyes on San Antonio to see if five-time champion Tim Duncan will retire, especially now that former Bulls forward Pau Gasol has signed with the team.

"This has been by far the most challenging few weeks in my professional life," Durant wrote on The Players' Tribune, in announcing his move to Golden State. "I understood cognitively that I was facing a crossroads in my evolution as a player and as a man, and that it came with exceptionally difficult choices."

At \$9,000 a second, teams have been making some difficult choices as well.



Maggie Daley Park
ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE FILE

Study: Chicago 74th among best U.S. cities for recreation

By **Chris Sosa** | REDEYE

Even with all the festivals and other events the city boasts in the summer, apparently Chicago is way behind the rest of the country when it comes to leisure activities.

At least, that's the picture a new WalletHub study is painting. According to the personal-finance website, our city ranks 74th—74th, for crying out loud!—among the 100 largest U.S. cities when it comes to parks and recreation.

The top five: Orlando; Tampa, Fla.; Scottsdale, Ariz.; Cincinnati; and Las Vegas.

The study used 35 metrics in arriving at its results, ranging from parkland acreage to the cost of movie tickets and food to the number of swimming pools and tennis courts per 100,000 residents.

Chicago cracked the top 10 in few of those metrics. One of them: 92.58 percent of the city's population has walkable park access, placing the city ninth in that category. Yet that's offset somewhat given that the city is 90th in parkland per 1,000 residents.

The news gets worse when you consider that Chicago is also 98th in movie costs (only New York and Los Angeles are more expensive) and 86th in average food price.

It's a wonder that Chicagoans don't complain more about being bored out of their minds. Or maybe the city's residents are good at making the best of what we have. Not that we'd be mad if there were more options out there ...

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Chicago ranks:



59th

In number of bike rental facilities per 100,000 residents



38th

In number of music venues per 100,000 residents



42nd

In number of tennis courts per 100,000 residents



42nd

In number of park play-grounds per 100,000 residents



29th

In number of swimming pools per 100,000 residents

THE MOUTHWATCH

"SWINGING A BAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT'S TIRING. BUT WHEN YOU DO IT FOR FIVE STRAIGHT MINUTES, TRYING TO HIT THE BALL AS FAR AS YOU CAN, IT GETS TIRING. HOME RUN DERBIES ARE FUN, BUT I'LL HAVE TO PASS."

—Cubs third baseman **Kris Bryant**, on his decision to opt out of the Home Run Derby, which takes place the day before the MLB All-Star Game.

THE DIGIT

9 That's how many fights Jordin Tootoo found himself in last season, according to **hockey fights.com**. The Blackhawks on Tuesday signed the 33-year-old forward to a one-year contract.

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HERE COME THE DUDES

ADAM DEVINE AND JAKE SZYMANSKI TALK IMPROV COMEDY, FAMILY TIES AND 'MIKE AND DAVE NEED WEDDING DATES'

By Lauren Chval | REDEYE

Director Jake Szymanski is excited to be back in Chicago. Stopping through with actor Adam Devine as they promote “Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates,” the Northwestern grad is most eager for stuffed spinach pizza from Giordano’s. He and Devine have a quick, playful rapport that was clearly developed in the trenches of making a comedy.

“By the way, this entire thing is off the record,” Szymanski joked during an interview at Three Dots and a Dash. “Nothing juicy, I just want the whole thing off the record because I’ve never done an off the record interview.”

“Mike and Dave” is the director’s feature debut after his hilarious “7 Days in Hell” aired on HBO last year, and the film gives away that the self-proclaimed “comedy nerd” spent time in the improv mecca that is Chicago. Much of the comedy, which stars Devine, Zac Efron, Anna Kendrick and Aubrey Plaza, was improvised to the point that Devine says he doesn’t remember some of the takes that ended up in the movie.

“I think it’s really important to start with a great script as your base. I come from the school of using a lot of improv on set, but we would always take the script and work from there,” Szymanski said. “A lot of times for me, it’s where I hear it. When I hear the actors do something and then I go, ‘Oh, you know what, now that I’m hearing you do it, it might be really fun to jump off in this direction. Let’s try it.’”

Devine said the key is to work within the truth of a character. Mike and Dave are rambunctious

“WHAT’S COOL ABOUT THE CHARACTERS OF MIKE AND DAVE SPECIFICALLY IS, YEAH, THEY LIKE TO PARTY, BUT THEY’RE NOT SNARKY OR [BLEEP].S. THEY WANT EVERYONE TO HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH THEM. IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT USUALLY WHEN THEY PARTY, THINGS GET SPUN OUT OF CONTROL AND GRANDPA MIGHT DIE.”

—Adam Devine, on his and Zac Efron’s characters in ‘Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates’

brothers who like to have a good time but are maybe a little too present in each other’s lives (the word “codependent” is thrown around). Playing within that framework helped establish the brothers’ dynamic.

“Improv isn’t funny if you’re acting in a scene and suddenly a person is like, ‘I’m a scientist!’” Devine said. “It has to make sense for the scene, and if it rings true for the character, then it can work in the movie. I think that’s the misconception of improv—people are like, ‘Oh, you could just say whatever, that’s what’s cool about improv.’ No, it has to make sense for the situation and the scene and the character to say that.”

You may know Devine from his work on “Modern Family,” “Workaholics” and “Pitch Perfect.” The 32-year-old has an expressive face and genuinely commits to absurdity in his roles. As Mike, he’s the “sadder” brother who may or may not be holding back his younger, better-looking brother, Dave (Efron).

“What’s cool about the characters of Mike and

TALKING WEDDING ETIQUETTE WITH ADAM DEVINE AND JAKE SZYMANSKI

We’re right in the middle of wedding season, and star Adam Devine and director Jake Szymanski are basically experts on etiquette after filming “Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates.” (Szymanski actually sort of is because he used to be a wedding DJ.) So we asked them some simple questions about wedding dos and don’ts. —L.C.

How many dates should I go on before I bring him or her as a plus-one to a wedding?

Adam Devine: I think you’ve got to be at least two months in.

Jake Szymanski: Unless you’re purposely trying to scare them. Unless you’re two dates in and like, “How can I end this?” Invite them to a wedding—it’s way too soon.

Can I Snapchat my friend’s wedding?

AD: I mean, yeah, if you want to be like the most annoying person at the party.

JS: What can’t you Snapchat these days? I think, yes, you can Snapchat, but there are filters you shouldn’t be using. You shouldn’t be using, like maybe rainbow vomit is OK, but old lady crazy face is not OK for a wedding. It’s not about using Snapchat, it’s about what filters. Don’t make the bride the old lady. Don’t make the groom the puppy. No one’s going to like that later. It’s the most special day of their lives.

AD: That being said, [she’s a] pretty cool bride if she’s like, “Yeah, make me the old lady.”

JS: Yeah, then you got a keeper.

What’s the best way to deal with a pushy best man or maid of honor?

AD: Uh, get a new best friend? I feel like if my best friend, if he was my best friend, if he was being too pushy, I’d be like, “I’m cashing you out. I’m getting a new one. Sorry.”

JS: Never be afraid to switch out your best man or maid of honor, even the day of your wedding. Even last minute.

AD: Always be willing to demote people.

How much is too much if there’s an open bar?

AD: I like weddings where, like, people get sloshed. It’s way more fun. I went to a wedding a few months ago that was just beer and wine. Like, what is going on here, guys?

Aubrey Plaza (from left), Anna Kendrick, Adam Devine and Zac Efron in ‘Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates’



Dave specifically is, yeah, they like to party, but they’re not snarky or [bleep],” Devine said. “They want everyone to have a good time with them. It just so happens that usually when they party, things get spun out of control and Grandpa might die.”

Playing around with improv resulted in Devine sharing a kiss scene with Efron and a sex scene with Plaza, and Devine insisted the latter was more uncomfortable.

“The kissing scene with Zac came and went so quickly,” he said. “The scene with Aubrey was funny and super awkward. ... Aubrey was like, ‘How would this work?’ and I’m like, ‘Well, I would have to bend it down ... and you would need to come at it from an angle.’ And she’s like, ‘Ohh, OK. Yeah. I see.’”

Szymanski said the joke of that scene came from trying to think of what sexual humor he had never seen in a movie. Plaza, alongside Kendrick, plays one of the titular wedding dates that the guys “need” because their younger sister Jeanie is getting married and wants them to be chill during the festivities.

Tatiana (Plaza) and Alice (Kendrick) are also a little wild but present themselves as “nice girls” to get a free trip to Hawaii with the guys. That phrase—“nice girls”—is used so frequently in the film that it starts to become a theme. Szymanski said it was originally to make sure the premise of the movie was clear, but then it turned into an interesting commentary on the pressure girls receive to be “nice.”

“By the end, I think you find out that our quote-unquote bad girls are actually nice girls. On the inside,” Szymanski said.

There is a current of devotion running beneath the movie, elevating it above generic raunchy dude humor. Tatiana and Alice are

childhood best friends, committed to taking care of each other and being true to themselves, and Mike and Dave’s lives are intertwined to the point of madness. Their earnest promise to bring dates is motivated by a desire to be there for their little sister, inspiring a **#DoingItForJeanie** mentality.

Neither Szymanski nor Devine has ever gone that far for a family member (“I haven’t gone down a hashtag route as of yet,” Devine said). They joked about how far they’d drive for their families, and Devine fondly recalled a memory of his younger sister cursing out a group of older kids who called him a cripple after he got into a serious accident as a kid.

“I was hit by a cement truck and couldn’t walk for a couple years. I remember some kid called me a cripple, which didn’t offend me because, no, I can’t walk, that’s pretty spot-on, you know what I mean?” Devine said. “But my little sister just went off on these kids. My sister is like, ‘Who the [bleep]—,’ and she’s a little girl at this point. So big shout-out to Brittani Devine. But if she was crippled, I would do the same thing.”

To be sure, there’s plenty of weird, inappropriate, rowdy humor in “Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates,” but it’s grounded in tight bonds between the characters that keep it from feeling random.

“I think that’s more relatable to everyone because people can see themselves in the characters,” Szymanski said.

“When you see a movie and it’s just a party guy, you’re like, ‘Yeah, but why are you the party guy? What’s happening in your life that you are that person? What’s going on?’” Devine said.

“What are you running from?” Szymanski joked.

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‘Mike & Dave’ is good but sloppy



Lauren Chval

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MIKE AND DAVE NEED WEDDING DATES *R*

yourself a comedy.

Traditionally, you’d also be waiting for the other shoe to drop—for Mike (Adam Devine) and Dave (Zac Efron) to slowly fall for their dates, only to have everything messed up once the lie comes to light. Cue the tearful apologies at the last minute and the happily ever afters. Except “Mike and Dave” mercifully gives a big middle finger to the rom-com formula and instead chooses to focus on characters’ relationships with friends and themselves.

Mike and Dave are brothers who sell liquor together and have no interest in ever being apart. Alice (Anna Kendrick) and Tatiana (Aubrey Plaza) are childhood best friends and such hot messes that they get fired from their wait-res jobs after repeatedly turning up drunk.

The movie throws a lot at the wall, and only some of it sticks. Within the first five minutes of the movie, Mike and Dave’s dad prophetically remarks, “This shtick was cute for a while, but it’s gotten stale.” Jokes that are funny for a second get dragged out for eternity, and the physical comedy isn’t half as effective as director Jake Szymanski thinks it is.

What truly sells the film is the great back and forth between Efron and Devine (and, to a lesser extent, Plaza and Kendrick). A lot was improvised, and some jokes are played so off-the-cuff that it simply feels like watching two very funny brothers clown around.

The script is smart to let all four characters be weird without judgment. They’re dumb, odd, messy people, and when it comes time for them to grow up a little bit, the film doesn’t try to change them. “I don’t want us to stop being us, but I think occasionally we should think about how other people feel,” Tatiana tells Alice. Be less selfish, not less weird.

The whole thing is undeniably sloppy and never quite as funny as it could be. But “Mike and Dave” refuses to be jammed into the mold, and that’s worth something.

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“By the way, this entire thing is off the record,” Szymanski joked during an interview at Three Dots and a Dash. “Nothing juicy, I just want the whole thing off the record because I’ve never done an off the record interview.”

“Mike and Dave” is the director’s feature debut after his hilarious “7 Days in Hell” aired on HBO last year, and the film gives away that the self-proclaimed “comedy nerd” spent time in the improv mecca that is Chicago. Much of the comedy, which stars Devine, Zac Efron, Anna Kendrick and Aubrey Plaza, was improvised to the point that Devine says he doesn’t remember some of the takes that ended up in the movie.

“I think it’s really important to start with a great script as your base. I come from the school of using a lot of improv on set, but we would always take the script and work from there,” Szymanski said. “A lot of times for me, it’s where I hear it. When I hear the actors do something and then I go, ‘Oh, you know what, now that I’m hearing you do it, it might be really fun to jump off in this direction. Let’s try it.’”

Devine said the key is to work within the truth of a character. Mike and Dave are rambunctious

“WHAT’S COOL ABOUT THE CHARACTERS OF MIKE AND DAVE SPECIFICALLY IS, YEAH, THEY LIKE TO PARTY, BUT THEY’RE NOT SNARKY OR [BLEEPS]. THEY WANT EVERYONE TO HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH THEM. IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT USUALLY WHEN THEY PARTY, THINGS GET SPUN OUT OF CONTROL AND GRANDPA MIGHT DIE.”

—Adam Devine, on his and Zac Efron’s characters in ‘Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates’

brothers who like to have a good time but are maybe a little too present in each other’s lives (the word “codependent” is thrown around). Playing within that framework helped establish the brothers’ dynamic.

“Improv isn’t funny if you’re acting in a scene and suddenly a person is like, ‘I’m a scientist!’” Devine said. “It has to make sense for the scene, and if it rings true for the character, then it can work in the movie. I think that’s the misconception of improv—people are like, ‘Oh, you could just say whatever, that’s what’s cool about improv.’ No, it has to make sense for the situation and the scene and the character to say that.”

You may know Devine from his work on “Modern Family,” “Workaholics” and “Pitch Perfect.” The 32-year-old has an expressive face and genuinely commits to absurdity in his roles. As Mike, he’s the “sadder” brother who may or may not be holding back his younger, better-looking brother, Dave (Efron).

“What’s cool about the characters of Mike and

TALKING WEDDING ETIQUETTE WITH ADAM DEVINE AND JAKE SZYMANSKI

We’re right in the middle of wedding season, and star Adam Devine and director Jake Szymanski are basically experts on etiquette after filming “Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates.” (Szymanski actually sort of is because he used to be a wedding DJ.) So we asked them some simple questions about wedding dos and don’ts. —L.C.

How many dates should I go on before I bring him or her as a plus-one to a wedding?

Adam Devine: I think you’ve got to be at least two months in.

Jake Szymanski: Unless you’re purposely trying to scare them. Unless you’re two dates in and like, “How can I end this?” Invite them to a wedding—it’s way too soon.

Can I Snapchat my friend’s wedding?

AD: I mean, yeah, if you want to be like the most annoying person at the party.

JS: What can’t you Snapchat these days? I think, yes, you can Snapchat, but there are filters you shouldn’t be using. You shouldn’t be using, like maybe rainbow vomit is OK, but old lady crazy face is not OK for a wedding. It’s not about using Snapchat, it’s about what filters. Don’t make the bride the old lady. Don’t make the groom the puppy. No one’s going to like that later. It’s the most special day of their lives.

AD: That being said, [she’s a] pretty cool bride if she’s like, “Yeah, make me the old lady.”

JS: Yeah, then you got a keeper.

What’s the best way to deal with a pushy best man or maid of honor?

AD: Uh, get a new best friend? I feel like if my best friend, if he was my best friend, if he was being too pushy, I’d be like, “I’m cashing you out. I’m getting a new one. Sorry.”

JS: Never be afraid to switch out your best man or maid of honor, even the day of your wedding. Even last minute.

AD: Always be willing to demote people.

How much is too much if there’s an open bar?

AD: I like weddings where, like, people get sloshed. It’s way more fun. I went to a wedding a few months ago that was just beer and wine. Like, what is going on here, guys?

Aubrey Plaza (from left), Anna Kendrick, Adam Devine and Zac Efron in ‘Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates’



Dave specifically is, yeah, they like to party, but they’re not snarky or [bleeps],” Devine said. “They want everyone to have a good time with them. It just so happens that usually when they party, things get spun out of control and Grandpa might die.”

Playing around with improv resulted in Devine sharing a kiss scene with Efron and a sex scene with Plaza, and Devine insisted the latter was more uncomfortable.

“The kissing scene with Zac came and went so quickly,” he said. “The scene with Aubrey was funny and super awkward. ... Aubrey was like, ‘How would this work?’ and I’m like, ‘Well, I would have to bend it down ... and you would need to come at it from an angle.’ And she’s like, ‘Ohh, OK. Yeah. I see.’”

Szymanski said the joke of that scene came from trying to think of what sexual humor he had never seen in a movie. Plaza, alongside Kendrick, plays one of the titular wedding dates that the guys “need” because their younger sister Jeanie is getting married and wants them to be chill during the festivities.

Tatiana (Plaza) and Alice (Kendrick) are also a little wild but present themselves as “nice girls” to get a free trip to Hawaii with the guys. That phrase—“nice girls”—is used so frequently in the film that it starts to become a theme. Szymanski said it was originally to make sure the premise of the movie was clear, but then it turned into an interesting commentary on the pressure girls receive to be “nice.”

“By the end, I think you find out that our quote-unquote bad girls are actually nice girls. On the inside,” Szymanski said.

There is a current of devotion running beneath the movie, elevating it above generic raunchy dude humor. Tatiana and Alice are

childhood best friends, committed to taking care of each other and being true to themselves, and Mike and Dave’s lives are intertwined to the point of madness. Their earnest promise to bring dates is motivated by a desire to be there for their little sister, inspiring a **#DoingItForJeanie** mentality.

Neither Szymanski nor Devine has ever gone that far for a family member (“I haven’t gone down a hashtag route as of yet,” Devine said). They joked about how far they’d drive for their families, and Devine fondly recalled a memory of his younger sister cursing out a group of older kids who called him a cripple after he got into a serious accident as a kid.

“I was hit by a cement truck and couldn’t walk for a couple years. I remember some kid called me a cripple, which didn’t offend me because, no, I can’t walk, that’s pretty spot-on, you know what I mean?” Devine said. “But my little sister just went off on these kids. My sister is like, ‘Who the [bleep]—,’ and she’s a little girl at this point. So big shout-out to Brittani Devine. But if she was crippled, I would do the same thing.”

To be sure, there’s plenty of weird, inappropriate, rowdy humor in “Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates,” but it’s grounded in tight bonds between the characters that keep it from feeling random.

“I think that’s more relatable to everyone because people can see themselves in the characters,” Szymanski said.

“When you see a movie and it’s just a party guy, you’re like, ‘Yeah, but why are you the party guy? What’s happening in your life that you are that person? What’s going on?’” Devine said.

“What are you running from?” Szymanski joked.

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‘Mike & Dave’ is good but sloppy



Lauren Chval

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MIKE AND DAVE NEED WEDDING DATES *R*

yourself a comedy.

Traditionally, you’d also be waiting for the other shoe to drop—for Mike (Adam Devine) and Dave (Zac Efron) to slowly fall for their dates, only to have everything messed up once the lie comes to light. Cue the tearful apologies at the last minute and the happily ever afters. Except “Mike and Dave” mercifully gives a big middle finger to the rom-com formula and instead chooses to focus on characters’ relationships with friends and themselves.

Mike and Dave are brothers who sell liquor together and have no interest in ever being apart. Alice (Anna Kendrick) and Tatiana (Aubrey Plaza) are childhood best friends and such hot messes that they get fired from their wait-res jobs after repeatedly turning up drunk.

The movie throws a lot at the wall, and only some of it sticks. Within the first five minutes of the movie, Mike and Dave’s dad prophetically remarks, “This shtick was cute for a while, but it’s gotten stale.” Jokes that are funny for a second get dragged out for eternity, and the physical comedy isn’t half as effective as director Jake Szymanski thinks it is.

What truly sells the film is the great back and forth between Efron and Devine (and, to a lesser extent, Plaza and Kendrick). A lot was improvised, and some jokes are played so off-the-cuff that it simply feels like watching two very funny brothers clown around.

The script is smart to let all four characters be weird without judgment. They’re dumb, odd, messy people, and when it comes time for them to grow up a little bit, the film doesn’t try to change them. “I don’t want us to stop being us, but I think occasionally we should think about how other people feel,” Tatiana tells Alice. Be less selfish, not less weird.

The whole thing is undeniably sloppy and never quite as funny as it could be. But “Mike and Dave” refuses to be jammed into the mold, and that’s worth something.

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The forgotten addiction

WITH ALL EYES ON HEROIN, COCAINE CONTINUES TO DESTROY—AND TAKE—LIVES

By John Keilman | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

About 1,000 recovering addicts came to a convention in Chicago recently to celebrate their sobriety, having survived a highly addictive drug that claims thousands of lives each year and produces untold misery among those caught in its grip.

But the drug isn't heroin—it's cocaine.

"Heroin is the drug du jour, but crack is still here, cocaine is still here," said Brian T., 57, a Cocaine Anonymous member from Evanston who attended the convention. "It destroys lives. It's a tornado effect that just eats up everybody in its path. Even though it's not in the limelight, it's still here, killing people."

Not long ago, cocaine was considered America's No. 1 drug scourge. Yet for reasons that aren't entirely clear, cocaine use has declined dramatically. There are about 1.5 million cocaine users today, compared with 4 million at its peak in the 1980s, experts say.

That's still triple the number of heroin users, estimated at 435,000 nationwide, but as that drug and other opiates have spread, the spotlight on cocaine has faded.

The drug remains dangerous—241 people died from cocaine-related causes last year in Cook County, according to the medical examiner's office—and difficult to treat: Cravings for the drug cannot be controlled through pharmaceutical means.

Some Cocaine Anonymous members who came to the convention lived through cocaine's heyday in the 1970s, when many thought the drug wasn't addictive, as well as the crack plague of the 1980s and 1990s. They vividly recalled the 1986 death of basketball star Len Bias.

But Jim R., 52, of Lemont, said today's 20-somethings have no comprehension of cocaine's hazards.

"Most of these kids are like, 'We wouldn't do heroin—we would die,'" he said. "But the cocaine will show up at their parties. They view it as less dangerous. They don't know anyone who has overdosed from cocaine. They view heroin as a death sentence. They

view cocaine as a party drug."

The reality, according to Steven Aks, an emergency room physician at Cook County's Stroger Hospital, is that cocaine can be lethal.

It can raise a person's body temperature and create an abnormal heart rhythm, even to the point of rupturing the aorta, he said, and it can ultimately cause organ systems to shut down and cast a user into cardiac arrest.

The drug has no antidote like naloxone, a medication that stops a heroin overdose almost instantly. Aks said ER doctors normally try to hydrate and cool the person while using tranquilizers to calm the heartbeat. Such episodes are less common than they used to be, he said, but fatalities still occur regularly.

Cocaine's decline is evident. According to the Illinois Youth Survey, only 2.7 percent of high school seniors in 2014 had used it, compared with 5 percent a decade earlier. Fewer Chicago arrestees test positive for it, and fewer clients referred to Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities, which helps people in the criminal justice system get into recovery, list cocaine as their primary drug of choice.

“[20-somethings] view heroin as a death sentence. They view cocaine as a party drug.” —Jim R., 52, of Lemont

Despite the drop, people with cocaine addictions still regularly seek treatment at rehabilitation centers such as Yellowbrick in Evanston. David Baron, the center's medical director, said the drug poses unique challenges: While it doesn't produce the excruciating withdrawal symptoms that opiates do, it's often used to mask depression, which must be treated alongside the addiction.

He said while opiates have eclipsed cocaine in the public eye, people in his line of work still see plenty of damage caused by the drug.

"A trend doesn't mean a total turnover," he said. "I don't think there's anyone I know who does addiction treatment who would say cocaine is no longer a problem."

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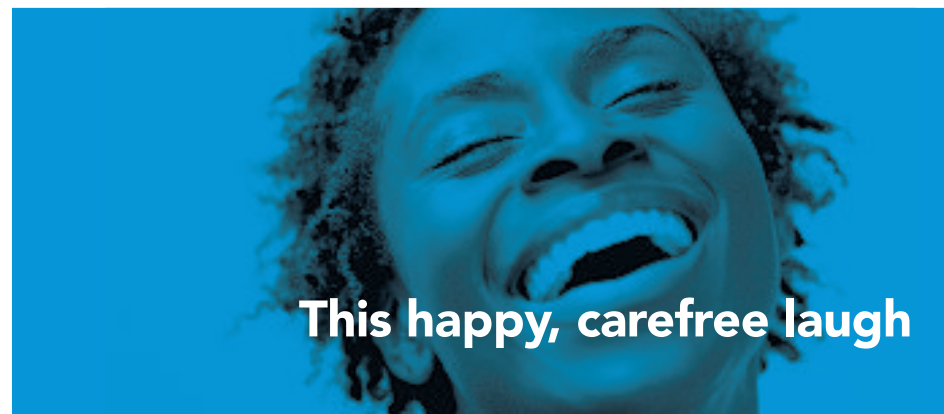
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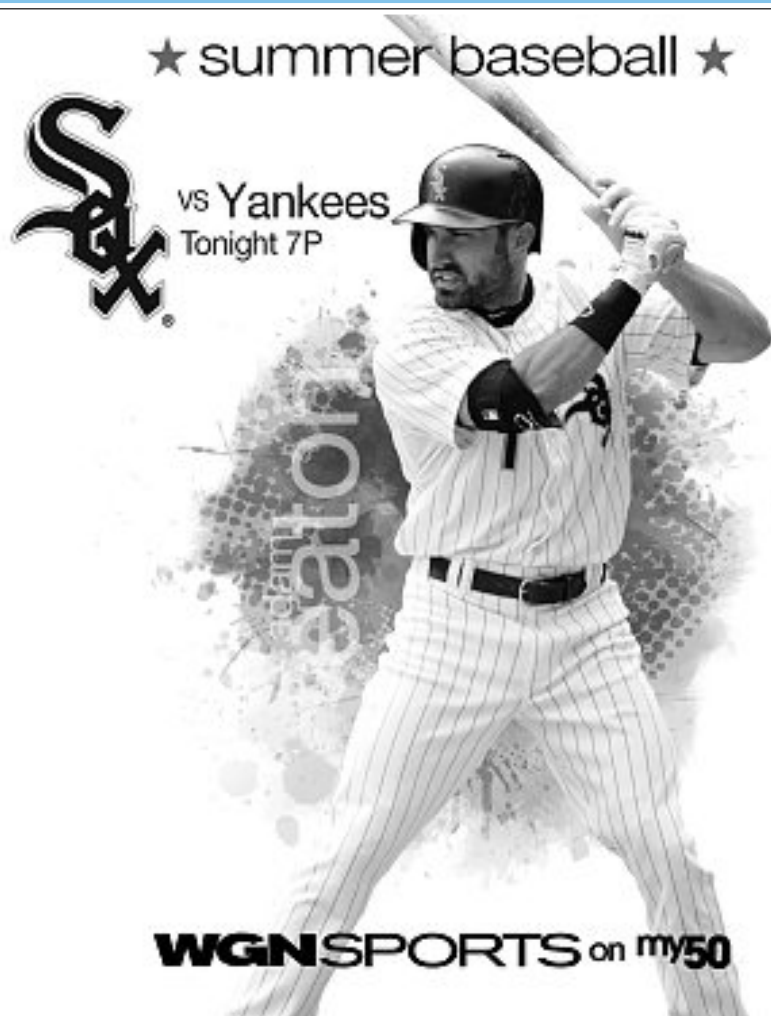
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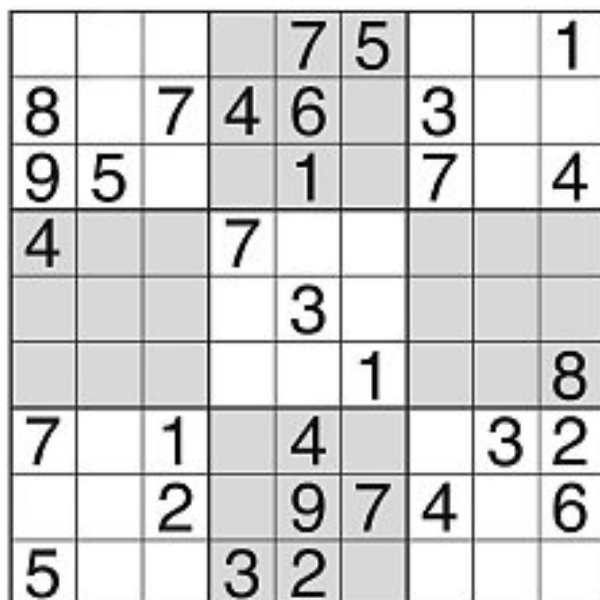
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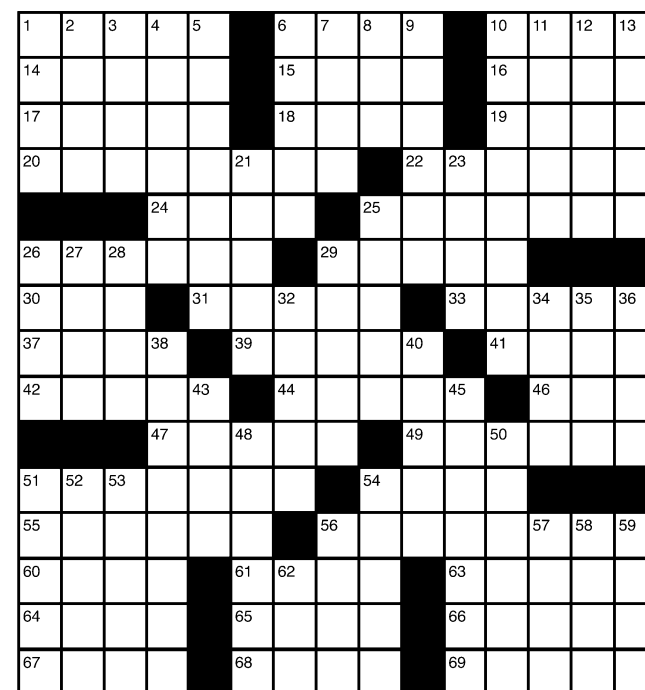
- » Actor **Gregory Smith**, 33 » Actress **Tia Mowry-Hardict**, 38 » Rapper **50 Cent**, 41
 » Actress **Eva Green**, 36 » Actress **Tamera Mowry-Housley**, 38 » Actor **Geoffrey Rush**, 65
 » Basketball player **Pau Gasol**, 36 » Actor **Sylvester Stallone**, 70
 » Actor **Kevin Hart**, 37 » **Dalai Lama**, 81

ACROSS

- 1 Day or Roberts
 6 and groan; complain
 10 Chair or stool
 14 which way; in all directions
 15 Climb; mount
 16 Egg on
 17 Hose problems
 18 King toppers
 19 Cat's sound
 20 Chafe
 22 Actor Dennis
 24 Break the to; inform
 25 Ardent fan
 26 Riddle; mystery
 29 Heston role
 30 Craving
 31 "Blue"; Irving Berlin hit
 33 Whiplash sites
 37 Dines
 39 Finished
 41 Sword fight
 42 Hang limply
 44 High-powered surgical beam
 46 Golfer's peg
 47 Baked donut-shaped roll
 49 Looked at
 51 Barber's offering
 54 Long car, for short
 55 Set on fire
 56 Cloudiness of the eye lens
 60 Give up land
 61 Puncture
 63 Bring upon oneself, as a penalty
 64 Make sweaters
 65 Roofing piece
 66 India's first Prime Minister
 67 Stick around
 68 down the river; betray
 69 In; chic

DOWN

- 1 Sandwich shop
 2 Go; review
 3 Fanny
 4 Vexing
 5 "All go!"; signal to proceed
 6 Trenches around castles
 7 more; again



- 8 Suffix for alien or invalid
 9 Has a snack
 10 Not to happen; accidental
 11 Burst
 12 See eye to eye
 13 Haute, IN
 21 Not sleeping
 23 Kiln
 25 Prescribed amounts
 26 Black peas
 27 Close by
 28 3_15 is 5
 29 Olympics prize
 32 Narrow waterway
 34 as a button
 35 over; faint
 36 Luge vehicle
 38 AA goal
 40 Left-hand ledger entry
 43 Treaty
 45 Doesn't leave
 48 Visitors
 50 Stinging insect
 51 2006 American Idol winner
 52 Representative
 53 Calcutta's land
 54 Can wrapper
 56 for; summon
 57 Sore
 58 Ringlet
 59 blue; loyal
 62 Even score

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THE QUOTE

“WHAT WE GOT IS LOVE EVEN WHEN THE SINNERS HATE US.”

—Hamilton star **Lin-Manuel Miranda**, in a preview of his new song, “Love Make the World Go Round,” recorded with singer Jennifer Lopez as a tribute the Orlando shooting victims. According to **rollingstone.com**, all proceeds from downloads of the song will benefit the Hispanic Federation’s Proyecto Somos Orlando; most of the shooting’s victims were Latino. Both Lopez and Miranda tweeted a behind-the-scenes video of the project on Monday, and while there’s no release date for the full song yet, we’re sure the waterworks will come



THE DIGIT

75

That’s how old Captain America is turning this year, and the big 7-5 is being commemorated with a new statue in Brooklyn, N.Y. Marvel plans to unveil the 13-foot bronze Steve Rogers at San Diego Comic-Con this month before takin’ him on a cross-country trip and setting him up in his hometown’s Prospect Park for an Aug. 10 dedication ceremony, according to **usatoday.com**. Cap originally debuted in Marvel comics in 1941 and most recently starred in “Captain America: Civil War,” which raked in a cool \$1.1 billion worldwide. If it’s wrong to be attracted to a statue, we don’t wanna be right.



Bloody hell

“True Blood,” the HBO hit show about sexy vampires, could be coming to Broadway, according to the New York Post. Tony-nominated director Pam MacKinnon is reportedly working on a draft written by young adult author Elizabeth Scott and composer Nathan Barr (who also scored the TV show). The first act is about 132 pages long, the Post reported, which we can get behind if it includes a lot of nearly naked singing vampires parading around on stage. Just shut up and take our money.

Not Alone

Freeform, formerly ABC Family, has given a pilot order to The Lonely Island’s new scripted comedy, “Alone Together.” The trio, made up of Andy Samberg, Jorma Taccone and Akiva Schaffer, will produce the show, which will tell the story of “two overlooked millennial misfits” played by Esther Povitsky and Benji Aflalo. Fingers crossed we get some musical numbers of “Jizz in My Pants” caliber. We can dream.



AP FILE

Don’t [bleep] with Shonda

The queen of ABC, **Shonda Rhimes**, has finally spoken out about those petitions to have Jesse Williams removed from “Grey’s Anatomy”—or not—after his speech at the BET Awards that called out cultural appropriation and police brutality against black Americans. Rhimes tweeted on Monday, “Um, people? Boo don’t need a petition. #shondalandrules,” swiftly shutting down Williams’ haters. Nobody tells Shonda what to do, especially not randos on the internet.

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